

Interview med Waste Picker:

Clausemar → Waste picker leder for et helt kooperativ

Han var med i processen fra losseplads til det nye setup/facilitet (men ikke den specifikke losseplads)

**Arbejdstider: 12.30**

Q: How many hours does a waste picker work on a weekly basis:

A: "He (Clausemar) said that the waste pickers right now, of course before they worked a lot, but right now the current situation is that they are working 44 hours a week. Sometimes on saturday, but the main rule is during the week from monday to friday 44 hours a week."

**Løn: 18.08**

Q: When and how do they get their salary, and how much do they earn?

A: "They receive their money in the bank account, everybody has a bank account. Some of the cooperations pay monthly, some weekly and some every 15<sup>th</sup> day.

The average earning is 1.200 BR, which is around 1.500 DKK.

He (Clausemar) explained that it has been changed from the creation of the dumpsite and until now. Before it was a different basis that way... Before there was a lack of infrastructure but right now that isn't the situation. Another thing he (Clausemar) said is that the 1.200 BR was the average, but there are some waste pickers that earn 3.000 BR because they work more. The more he works the more he earns. The 1.200 BR a month is net on their account, plus they have the payment of the social security, it's around 250 BR a month, and through his cooperative has a health plan.

**Forbrug af penge for WP: 24.45**

Q: What do the waste pickers spend their money on/what is their biggest spendings during the month?

A: "The waste pickers would spend an average of 600-750 BR with food, and the other amount would be the other expenses for something they buy, for instance clothes, like for example they have a smartphone... They don't buy it all in one, they have to pay for that each month, or for their tv, or something for their houses and so on. They have an average I would say of 400-500 BR to do this. And he said also that a great number of them have to send money to those that are not in Brazilia. And another relevant thing that he (Clausemar) said is that the number of waste pickers paying rent, is increasing, since they are improving their lives, and so we can say that they are paying an average of 300 BR... and we can estimate that it is already 50% of waste pickers (red: paying rent), so he (Clausemar) said that this is something that is increasing fast.

### **Motivation i henhold til familien: 25:55**

A great number of them have to send money to their families that are not in Brasilia. So they have to send off money for their families that are not east of brasilia, in other cities. For the mother or the son. And not only for the mother and the father, but sometimes for the children that are not with the waste pickers(Professor Paulo Celso - oversat/uddybende for Cleusimar).

### **Forandringen ift. hvornår WP'ere fik løn: 33.30**

Q: How has the change in the way they're getting paid (previously daily, now weekly, 15'th day or monthly) changed their financial situation?

A: They do have difficulties. Since the beginning if you let the waste pickers get the money on a monthly basis, the cooking gas will end (runs out) before the end of the month, so that's a problem. They run out of money, for other things, which is very difficult. There was a big problem in the beginning of the transition. Everybody would run out of money, and then they would have to create some special tickets (I O U's, red: gældsbeviser til fx supermarkeder etc.). Another problem they had was with some waste pickers having addictions with drugs, and would like to receive the money as fast as possible. And if they had all the money they could spend everything really fast. In the beginning of the transition it was very difficult. Clausemar said that even after this time (of transitioning), he (Clausemar) said that it wouldn't work (red: paying waste pickers monthly) because they still can't manage their money, they would run out of money in the middle of the month. They (the cooperative) tried this (paying monthly) and it did not work.

### **Positive ting fra skiftet fra losseplads - facilitetet: 46.10**

Q: What positives has come as of yet from the changes?

A: "One of the benefits is that they now have independence... They go to the waste instead of waiting for the waste in the dumpsite. This gives them a bit more of independence. Also quality of work is much better, they (red: previously) had to compete with rats, and with trucks and sometimes get hit by a truck and die, (red: which were) pretty common at that time. So safety of work is one of the things he mentioned.

Also their income is complemented each day, so it is increasing productivity, so it is not like it was before with the amount (red: of money), but right now it is getting better.

The key thing he (Clausemar) mentioned was that they are now sure that they receive money. That changes everything for them. That is the main positive point... Earlier they always had the fear that you won't get your money... But right now they have a bit more of stability. So they can provide themselves with better lives, can buy things, e.g. a smartphone, paying by installments... because they know that they will receive (red: money) and they will not be in debt. Also now the cooperatives are paying for the waste pickers health insurance, so if a waste picker gets in an accident or anything, they have an insurance and that is also a big change compared to the past. And the women that are pregnant, they have the maternity license, they did not have in the past, now they have. There are six months of social security provides the money so that they can stay with their children.

### **Dårlige ting fra skiftet fra losseplads - facilitet: 51.45**

Q: What have been the negative side effects with the change?

A: "The biggest negative point is indeed the reduction in income because of one fact, that is our collective selection is really bad. So before they had access to the regular waste, so they would have access to all the regular waste, like all types. Right now they only receive selected collections, and since the selection is so bad they receive less waste than they would like. **And that is one factor in the reduction of income. That is the worst aspect. The problem is money.**"

#### **Hvordan hæver de fx penge/payment card/hvor ofte hæver de/ I O U: 55.40**

Q: How often do waste pickers withdraw money from their bank account?

A: "Most of them wouldn't use a credit card, or any card to pay in installments, they actually with something called cale (red: I O U's<sup>1</sup>). In regards to withdrawing money (red: from their account) they do it once a month as a rule, that's the most common case. They usually withdraw a lot of money, so that they can manage their finances in real cash."

#### **Deres holdning til at have en bankkonto/holdning til bank: 59.40**

Q: How does the waste pickers feel regarding having a bank account? Is it a good thing or a bad thing?

A: "In general in the beginning, they didn't so much like the idea, but now afterwards they very much like the idea actually. **They do like it because they can withdraw money more easily and they can also get some social benefits more easily.** The bank that they withdraw from is a public bank, so that they can get their social benefits from the federal government (red: more easily than before)... Because of this they also have easier help to e.g. credit."

#### **Hvordan har de det med at have fået en formel titel og et cpr-nummer: 1.06.25**

Q: How does the waste pickers feel now that waste picker is an official title and they have received social security/registration?

A: "**Now they feel like professionals, instead of just being seen as these miserable people that work with what is left like in society. They feel professional.** He even cited the official government regarding the pandemic where there is some financial help, but they (waste pickers) said that "No no, they will not have it, we do not want to get the help, we just want to get back to work because we are professionals." That is the feeling that they are having now. **They have a profession instead of just playing some role in society that is left.** (In regards to social security): **That this is really important for them, because without them they can't do anything. They can get social benefits, they can have e.g. a bank account, all this formalisation after they closed the dumpsite was really important for them.** Because to get the social security number they had to go to a formal internet, and for this they had to have another registration so it enforced them to make these documents all of them.

#### **Hvad er deres motivation for at være WP'er: 1.14.55**

Q: What is the waste picker's motivation to go to work?

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<sup>1</sup> I O U's eller gældsbeviser som vi kalder det i Danmark er et stykke papir med en given afbetalingsaftale waste pickers laver med en sælger/forhandler, fx i forbindelse med køb af smartphone.

A: "In the past, we would go just to survive! Clausemar said that he only became a waste picker because he had no other option. But right now he feels like and he understands from the other waste pickers that they go because they see it from a perspective, that they have the possibility of increasing their income... now with both private and governmental contracts, it is becoming a sector instead of it being something that is neglected by society. There is a perspective in the sector, there is a perspective in the society for these waste pickers because they see people earning a lot as a waste picker - with one of the exceptional waste pickers earning 3.000 BR which is more than twice the average (red: of income). They see the perspectives in the rights (labour rights - of earning more due to working more). Sometimes they see that there are curriculums to their work, because now it is a job."

#### **Vil de have en app til at hjælpe dem med at lære/forstå økonomi?: 1.22.15**

Q: Would the waste pickers want/be motivated to learn about their private economy and civil rights through an application?

A: "YES! Yes it is excellent the idea of having an application for learning (red: of their private economy)... is the idea of an application is perfect. Formal education will not work for them, Professor: "'I've tried this with them for three years, and it was very hard,""

He (Clausemar) said that it would be better if you teach us how to use your money, how we can use our bank account, how to save money and how to spend money more effectively. It would be very interesting to have this."

#### **Brug af smartphone: 1.28.50**

Q: How is the waste pickers usage of smartphones e.g. on a daily basis?

A: "WhatsApp is the reason that they have a smartphone, WhatsApp is by far the biggest communication tool, so they use it a lot , so I would say it could be between one hour and three hours (red: on a daily basis) because of work, if they had more hours to spend (red: on their smartphone) they would".

#### **Opsparing/bankkonto: 1.30.00**

Q: Do the waste pickers put money in a savings account?

A: "Some of them. It varies. I would say they do save money, but not a lot, some smaller amounts, because they really want to get their lives better, e.g. buying a tv, because it is very important for them to have a tv."

#### **WP's optimale læringsmiljø: 1.32.55**

Q: What is the best learning experience for the waste pickers?

A: "When they have group dynamics they do like it, that's confirmed. They like it when it's dynamic and they can share ideas, that is one way to make it flourish, like their intellectual acquisition and so on. When the class is very much like a monolog of somebody, they don't like it. They are normal that way, they don't like it, they feel bored, and especially when the subject is this. Their motivation is really attached to the subject. For instance regarding internships, they always said that "'we had some nice classes with that'", and they mentioned this because it made them dream. The type of knowledge makes them dream which is very motivational."

